

Notice of Allowability

Application No.	Applicant(s)
10/823,620	REHN ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.

09/806,795

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

Staffan Folestad

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

1103326-0660

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/SE01/00023

I.A. FILING DATE

01/08/2001

PRIORITY DATE

01/13/2000

007470
WHITE & CASE LLP
PATENT DEPARTMENT
1155 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK, NY 10036

CONFIRMATION NO. 6487

371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER



OC00000008577127

Date Mailed: 08/06/2002

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.494
OR 1.495**

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as an Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

04/04/2001

DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and
(c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

04/04/2001

DATE OF RECEIPT OF ALL 35 U.S.C.
REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE " FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- U.S. Basic National Fee
- Copy of the International Application
- Copy of the International Search Report
- Information Disclosure Statements
- Oath or Declaration

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed

to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

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PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)

a housing disposed in the casing and defining a gas chamber having a front wall disposed behind the wedge arrangement and through which the rear drawbar extends, and a piston disposed in the gas chamber for axial movement therein and releasably connected to a rear end of the rear drawbar by a releasable coupling disposed in the chamber.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-6 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record neither anticipates nor renders obvious a machine spindle as claimed in independent claims 1 or 6, specifically wherein the clamping mechanism comprises a force transmitting mechanism with a force amplifier wedge arrangement and a gas spring housing disposed in the casing and defining a gas chamber having a front wall *disposed behind the wedge arrangement* and through which the drawbar extends (independent claim 1) or a piston disposed in the gas chamber *in contact with the gas* (independent claim 6).

The closest prior art of record is US Pat. No. 6,722,827 (Anderson, hereafter '827). '827 teaches a tool clamping device with a gas spring. Though '827 uses different terminology to define parts of the spindle, examiner notes that, in Figure 1, reference number 16 is a front drawbar, 9 a rear drawbar, the front and rear drawbars connected with a threaded coupling (col. 3, lines 12-14), the rear drawbar connected to a pushrod (piston) 25 through a threaded coupling (col. 3, lines 52-57); a gas spring 5 and a chamber with housing 7 (see fig. 1).

‘827 further teaches a force transmitting mechanism can be a system of wedges (col. 4, lines 50-54).

‘827 does not teach the location of the system of wedges, specifically the gas spring with gas chamber having a front wall disposed behind the wedge arrangement (as claimed in independent claim 1).

‘827 teaches the pushrod 25 (piston) threadingly engaged to the rear drawbar 9 with an arrangement of seals 11 and 12 to prevent the gas from coming in contact with the pushrod 25 (piston).

‘827 does not disclose the pushrod 25 (piston) “in contact with the gas” (as claimed in independent claim 6).

Therefore ‘827 does not anticipate the claimed inventions of independent claims 1 or 6.

Furthermore, there is no prior art, either alone or in combination with ‘827 that would render obvious the claimed inventions, and no motivation found to modify ‘827 to obtain the claimed inventions.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dana Ross whose telephone number is 571-272-4480. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on 571-272-4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


dmr


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PRIMARY EXAMINER